

Serial No.: 10/527,274
Examiner: Amy R. Hsu
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REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Revisions have been made to the claims, which incorporate the features of claim 4 and intermediate claim 2 into claim 1 and rewrite claim 12 in independent form. Claims 5, 7, 10 and 16-20 have been revised to depend from claim 1. Claim 14 has been revised to depend from claim 12. Claims 2, 4, 8 and 9 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3, 5-7 and 10-24 remain pending in the application.

Claims 1-3, 10-11 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Morley (US 6,975,358). Claim 1 has been revised to incorporate the features of allowable claim 4 and intermediate claim 2. Claims 10, 19 and 20 have been revised to depend from claim 1. Claim 1 and claims 3, 10-11 and 19-20, which depend ultimately from claim 1, are thus patentable. Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection.

Claims 8-9 and 23 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morley in view of Yamamoto (US 6,907,139). Claims 8-9 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection. Claim 23 depends ultimately from claim 1 and is patentable over Morley in view of Yamamoto for at least the same reasons discussed above regarding claims 1, 3, 10-11 and 19-20. Applicants are not conceding the relevance of the rejection to the remaining features of claim 23.

Claims 14, 16-18 and 21 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morley. Claim 14 has been revised to depend from claim 12 and is allowable along with claim 12. Claims 16-18 have been revised to depend from claim 1. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection.

Claims 16-18 and 21 depend from claim 1 and are patentable over Morley for at least the same reasons discussed above regarding claims 1, 3, 10-11 and 19-20. Applicants are not conceding the relevance of the rejection to the remaining features of the rejected claims.

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Applicants are not conceding the relevance of the rejection to the remaining features of the rejected claims.

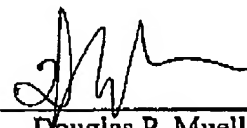
In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Douglas P. Mueller, Reg. No. 30,300, at (612) 455-3804.



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Dated: July 29, 2008

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DPM/cy